



Michigan Conference of the National Organization for Women

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House Health Policy Committee November 14, 2006

We would like to thank Senator Beverly Hammerstrom, the sponsor of Senate bills 1416 and 1417, and the House Health Policy Committee for the opportunity to voice our support here today for your effort to address the important issue of preventing cervical cancer.

The Michigan Chapter of the National Organization for Women fully supports Senate bills 1416 and 1417, which would require Michigan girls to receive a vaccine that can prevent cervical cancer.

The American Cancer Society estimates that approximately 9,700 women nationwide will be diagnosed with cervical cancer in 2006 and 3,700 will die. MI-NOW believes that this legislation is an important step in saving the lives of women. The vaccine has been seen as a breakthrough in cancer prevention and MI-NOW appreciates that the legislature is concerned about the future health of young girls.

The National Organization for Women is the largest organization of feminist activists in the United States, advocating for equality for women in every aspect of civic life. More information can be found at www.michnow.org.

If you need additional information please feel free to contact our Legislative representative Stephanie Wuttke at 372-0860. Thank you.

NOW's purpose is to take action to bring women into full participation in the mainstream of American society now, exercising all privileges and responsibilities thereof in truly equal partnership with men.